

Claims

1. A method of screening for therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising the steps of
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- 10 i) contacting a test compound with a RNPEP-like polypeptide,
- ii) detect binding of said test compound to said RNPEP-like polypeptide.
2. A method of screening for therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising the steps of
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- 20 i) determining the activity of a RNPEP-like polypeptide at a certain concentration of a test compound or in the absence of said test compound,
- 25 ii) determining the activity of said polypeptide at a different concentration of said test compound.
3. A method of screening for therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological
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diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising the steps of

- 5 i) determining the activity of a RNPEP-like polypeptide at a certain concentration of a test compound,
- ii) determining the activity of a RNPEP-like polypeptide at the presence of a compound known to be a regulator of a RNPEP-like polypeptide.
- 10 4. The method of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the step of contacting is in or at the surface of a cell.
5. The method of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the cell is in vitro.
- 15 6. The method of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the step of contacting is in a cell-free system.
7. The method of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the polypeptide is coupled to a detectable label.
- 20 8. The method of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the compound is coupled to a detectable label.
9. The method of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the test compound displaces a ligand which is first bound to the polypeptide.
- 25 10. The method of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the polypeptide is attached to a solid support.
- 30 11. The method of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the compound is attached to a solid support.

- 5 12. A method of screening for therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising the steps of
- 10 i) contacting a test compound with a RNPEP-like polynucleotide,
- ii) detect binding of said test compound to said RNPEP-like polynucleotide.
- 15 13. The method of claim 12 wherein the nucleic acid molecule is RNA.
14. The method of claim 12 wherein the contacting step is in or at the surface of a cell.
- 20 15. The method of claim 12 wherein the contacting step is in a cell-free system.
16. The method of claim 12 wherein polynucleotide is coupled to a detectable label.
- 25 17. The method of claim 12 wherein the test compound is coupled to a detectable label.
- 30 18. A method of diagnosing a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising the steps of

- i) determining the amount of a RNPEP-like polynucleotide in a sample taken from said mammal,
 - 5 ii) determining the amount of RNPEP-like polynucleotide in healthy and/or diseased mammals.
19. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological
- 10 diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising a therapeutic agent which binds to a RNPEP-like polypeptide.
- 15 20. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising a
- 20 therapeutic agent which regulates the activity of a RNPEP-like polypeptide.
21. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological
- 25 diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising a therapeutic agent which regulates the activity of a RNPEP-like polypeptide, wherein said therapeutic agent is
- 30 i) a small molecule,
 - ii) an RNA molecule,

- iii) an antisense oligonucleotide,
- iv) a polypeptide,
- v) an antibody, or
- vi) a ribozyme.

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22. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising a RNPEP-like polynucleotide.
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23. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising a RNPEP-like polypeptide.
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24. Use of regulators of a RNPEP-like for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal.
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25. Method for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition useful for the treatment of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation,
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hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal comprising the steps of

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- i) identifying a regulator of RNPEP-like,
 - ii) determining whether said regulator ameliorates the symptoms of a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation,
10 hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases in a mammal; and
 - iii) combining of said regulator with an acceptable pharmaceutical carrier.
- 15 26. Use of a regulator of RNPEP-like for the regulation of RNPEP-like activity in a mammal having a disease comprised in a group of diseases consisting of cardiovascular diseases, dermatological diseases, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, cancer, gastroenterological diseases, inflammation, hematological diseases, neurological diseases and urological diseases.